

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed August 27, 2010, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Entry of the present amendment and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-8 are pending in this application, where claims 1 and 7 are independent.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Finality of the Office Action of August 27, 2010 is premature and requests withdrawal of the finality of the Office Action. In particular, the Amendment filed along with the Request for Continued Examination, filed on July 22, 2010, amended the specification and drawings to overcome the objection thereto under 35 U.S.C. §132(a), as well as to overcome the rejection of claims 1, 3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The specification and drawings claims 1, 3 and 5-8 currently stand rejected on the same ground of objection and rejection. Accordingly, no further search is required, and the Examiner need make no new ground of objection or rejection. Further, Applicant has not been given the opportunity to respond to the current objection or rejection. Accordingly, Finality of the Office Action of August 27, 2010 and entry of the present amendment are respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action, the previously filed amendment is objected to under 35

U.S.C. §132(a) for allegedly adding new matter. This allegation is respectfully traversed. However, to advance prosecution and expedite allowance, the specification and drawings have been amended to delete the alleged new matter rendering moot this objection. In particular, FIGs 5a and 5b have been amended to revert to the original FIGs 5a and 5b, and to delete the cross-lines in the original FIG 5a. A replacement sheet including FIGs 5a and 5b is enclosed. Applicant respectfully requests approval of the enclosed proposed drawing changes.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1, 3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Further, FIG 5a has been amended for better conformance with the specification. It is respectfully submitted that the Application including the figures, fully complies with the written description requirement, and reasonably conveys that the inventor, at the time the Application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

In particular, one skilled in the art would have no trouble understanding from the specification and drawings that the inventors, at the time of the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention as recited in claims 1, 3 and 5-8, such as described from page 4, line 26 to page 5, line 5 of the specification as originally filed (illustrative emphasis provided):

When the operating member 8 is in the position shown in Figure 5a, a first pole of the power source 30 is connected via the conductors 32, 36

and 34 to a first electrical contact of the motor 16, while the other, second pole of the power source 30 is connected via the conductors 33, 36 and 35 to the other, second electrical contact of the motor 16.

Sliding the operating member 8 in the direction indicated by arrow E in Figure 5a brings the operating member 8 into the position shown in Fig. 5b. In this position of the operating member, the first pole of the power source 30 is connected via the conductors 32, 36 and 35 to the second electrical contact of the motor 16, while the other, second pole of the power source 30 is connected via the conductors 33, 36 and 34 to the first electrical contact of the motor 16. Sliding the operating member 8 in the direction indicated by arrow F in Fig. 5b moves the operating member 8 into the position shown in Fig. 5a. The directions E and F indicated in Figs. 5a and 5b correspond to the directions A indicated in Fig. 3. Thus the reversing means for reversing the sense of rotation of the motor 16 are integrated in the operating member 8 for putting the trimmer into and out of operation.

As clearly described in the above noted portion of the specification and shown in FIGs 5a-5b, the polarity of the power provided to the motor 16 is reversed by reversing means, where "the reversing means for reversing the sense of rotation of the motor 16 are integrated in the operating member 8 for putting the trimmer into and out of operation." (Specification, page 5, lines 3-5; emphasis added) One skilled in the art would clearly understand that the inventor, at the time the Application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention, and would know how to make and use reversing means that reverses the polarity of power provided to a motor, such as evidence by the presently cited prior art, namely, U.S. Patent No. 3,213,536 (Futterer). In particular, Futterer dating back to 1963, clearly shows that "a reversing switch 28" that reverses power polarity to a motor 27 is well known even in 1963, such as described from column 3, line 65 to column 4, line 19.

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in claims 1, 3 and 5-8

fully complies with the written description requirement, where FIGs 4a-4b and page 4, lines 4-20 clearly describe "reversing means for reversing at least a portion of the drive structure between a first sense of rotation and a second, opposite sense of rotation," as recited in claim 1. Further, FIGs 5a-5b, as amended, and page 4, line 26 to page 5, line 5 clearly describe a motor which is provided with power of reverse polarity, which may be done using well known means as easily recognized from the present Application by those skilled in the art, such as the reversing switch 28 of Futterer. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection of claims 1, 3 and 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-3, 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 3,213,536 (Futterer) and in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,701,673 (Ullmann). Further, claims 1-3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Futterer in view of Ullmann and U.S. Patent No. 4,355,464 (Bergsma). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3 and 5-8 are patentable over Futterer, Ullmann and Bergsma for at least the following reasons.

Futterer is directed to dry shaver having two cutters. A drive shaft 1 is selectively rotated in either direction. The shaft is rotatable in one direction for driving a long hair cutter 15 and is rotatable in the opposite direction for driving the second cutter a short hair cutter 16, as shown in FIGs 4-5. As recited on column 3, lines 29-44 and line 75, upon or in response to reversing the rotation direction of the drive shaft 1, via a reversing switch 28,

either the long or short hair cutters 15, 16 are driven. That is, driving the long or short hair cutters 16, 15 is achieved by "rocking the switch 28 in the opposite switching position." (Futterer, column 4, lines 21-22) In Futterer, as clearly shown in FIG 5, the long hair cutter 15 is not retractable, which is correctly noted by the Examiner on page 3, last paragraph of the Final Office Action, indicating that the trimmer in Futterer "has only one position."

Ullmann is directed to a dry shaving apparatus having a switch 4 with four positions, namely, a first OFF position as shown in FIG 2a, a first ON position as shown in FIG 3a, a second ON position as shown in FIG 4a, and a second OFF position as shown in FIG 5a, where the trimmer 7 is de-activated but remains in the extended position P shown in FIGs 1 and 4a. Ullmann is completely silent about and reversing device configured to reverse the drive direction.

It is respectfully submitted that the Futterer and Ullmann, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 7 which, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

wherein the reversing means are integrated in the operating member and co-operate with the trimmer for reversing said sense of rotation in response to an action of moving the trimmer between the retracted position and the operation position.

Reversing means being integrated in an operating member is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Futterer and Ullmann, alone or in combination. Further, as correctly noted by the Examiner on page 3, last paragraph of the Final Office Action, the trimmer in Futterer

"has only one position." Even if it is obvious to have a retractable trimmer, there is still no disclosure or suggestion in Futterer, Ullmann, and combination thereof, of any reversing means being integrated in any operating member, or any reversing means that co-operate with the trimmer for reversing the sense of rotation in response to moving the trimmer between the retracted position and the operation position, as recited in independent claims 1 and 7. At best, the combination Futterer and Ullmann discloses a shaver having a switch with various positions, where power is applied to the trimmer in one switch position, and polarity is reversed in another switch position. A reversing device which is integrated in a switch and where the rotation sense is automatically reversed by moving the trimmer between retracted and operation position is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Futterer and Ullmann, alone or in combination. Bergsma is cited to allegedly show other features and does not remedy the deficiencies in Futterer and Ullmann.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1 and 7 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3, 5-6 and 8 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 7, as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented

remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 20, 2010

Enclosure: Replacement drawing sheet (1 sheet including FIGs 5a and 5b)

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